convertible currency or any other internationally recognized form of business cooperation. A technical credit to Russia of not exceeding Rs. 850 crores has also been provided for in the protocol.

Opening of Sub Post Office and Branch Post Office in Almora Distt.

1866. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that residents of Basot have represented for opening a Sub-Post Office at Basot District Almora;

(b) whether it is a fact that they have also requested for opening branch post offices at Srikot and Gwelkhan; and

(c) if so, by when a sub post office at Basot and branch post offices at Srikot and Gwelkhan will be opened?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes Sir. The proposal for upgradation of Basot branch post office was examined but not found justified according to norms.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) In view of reply to part (a) and (b) above, the question does not arise at present.

Revision on pay scales of the Postal Inspectors and Assistant Superintendents

1867. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the recommendations of Fourth Central Pay Commission in the matter of revision of pay scales of Inspectors and Assistant Superintendents in the Department of Posts have been implemented by Government;

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when the said recommendations are likely to be implemented?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) The Pay scales recommended by the IVth Pay Commission, in respect of Inspectors and Assistant Superintendents have already been implemented by the Government. However, the Commission's recommendations with respect to:

(i) introduction of an element of direct recruitment in the cadre of Inspectors;

(ii) merger of the two cadres; and

(iii) review of the pay scales of both cadres after implementation of (i) and (ii) above is still under consideration.

(c) Soon after introduction of direct recruitment in the Cadre of Inspectors is taken up, the recommendations will be implemented.

Memorandum to Prime Minister by Postal Employees Unions

1868. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a delegation of Postal Employees Unions led by a member of Parliament called on the Prime Minister on the 6th November, 1991 and submitted a memorandum;

(b) if so, what are the demands of these employees; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to fulfil these demands?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A statement indicating the demands of the employees contained in the memorandum and steps taken/views of the Government thereto is attached.